

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAIRO 06301 091318Z

41

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 091200Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3275

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 6301

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, EG, US

SUBJECT: ISRAELI INTERFERENCE IN AMOCO ACTIVITIES

IN GULF OF SUEZ

REF: CAIRO 6158

1. ALTHOUGH FAHMY HAS SAID NOTHING FURTHER TO ME ABOUT THE REFERENCE INCIDENT, MINPET AHMED HILAL TOLD ME LAST NIGHT THAT THE MATTER HAS BEEN RESOLVED. HE RELATED THAT THE ISRAELI GUN BOAT, AFTER WARNING SKIPPER OF AMOCO-CHARTERED WHITE DRAGON THAT SHE WAS IN "ISRAELI TERRITORIAL WATERS" AND WOULD BE FIRED UPON IF SHE DID NOT GET OUR OR RETURNED, HAD LEFT THE AREA AFTER ABOUT THREE-QUARTERS OF AN HOUR. THE AMERICAN SKIPPER OF THE WHITE DRAGON THEREUPON SOUGHT INSTRUCTIONS FROM AMOCO BASE HEADQUARTERS, WHICH IN TURN CHECKED WITH HILAL. HILAL ASKED AMOCO TO INSTRUCT THE SKIPPER TO MAKE ANOTHER TRY TO REPLACE AMERICAN-OWNED ESTRALITA RIG WITH THE LARGER ONE FROM PLATFORM 4. SKIPPER SAILED BACK INTO THE AREA AFTER "ABOUT SIX HOURS" AND EXCHANGED RIGS WITHOUT, ON THIS OCCASION, ANY CHALLENGE BY ISRAELI GUN BOAT.

2. HILAL ALSO MENTIONED THAT, AFTER HEARING OF THE INCIDENT, HE HAD TALKED WITH GAMASY ABOUT THE MATTER. GAMASY HAS GIVEN INSTRUCTIONS TO THE EGYPTIAN NAVY TO PATROL MORE ACTIVELY IN THE GULF OF SUEZ AREA WHERE OIL DRILLING ACTIVITIES ARE UNDERWAY ON BEHALF OF GOE AS A DETERRENT TO FURTHER ISRAELI CHALLENGES.

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TO THE BEST OF HIS KNOWLEDGE, HOWEVER, THE AMOCO RIG

REPLACEMENT ACCOMPLISHED ON THE SECOND TRY TOOK PLACE  
WITHOUT EGYPTIAN PATROL BOAT COVER.

3. ROSS CRAIG, HEAD OF AMOCO, HAS CONFIRMED ABOVE. ACCORDING  
TO HIM, HOWEVER, THE SECOND AND SUCCESSFUL TRY TO REPLACE THE RIG  
TOOK PLACE THE FOLLOWING MORNING RATHER THAN SIX HOURS AFTER  
THE INCIDENT. HE ALSO CONFIRMED THERE HAS BEEN NO FURTHER ISRAELI  
HARASSMENT, AT LEAST THUS FAR. CRAIG KNEW OF  
NO EGYPTIAN PATROL BOAT COVER FOR THE AMOCO OPERATIONS AT  
RAMADAN FIELD.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Draft Date:** 09 MAY 1976  
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**Disposition Authority:** ElyME  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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